



# ***The Resonator***

**Official Newsletter of The Fair Lawn (NJ) Amateur Radio Club**

**Volume 9, Number 6**

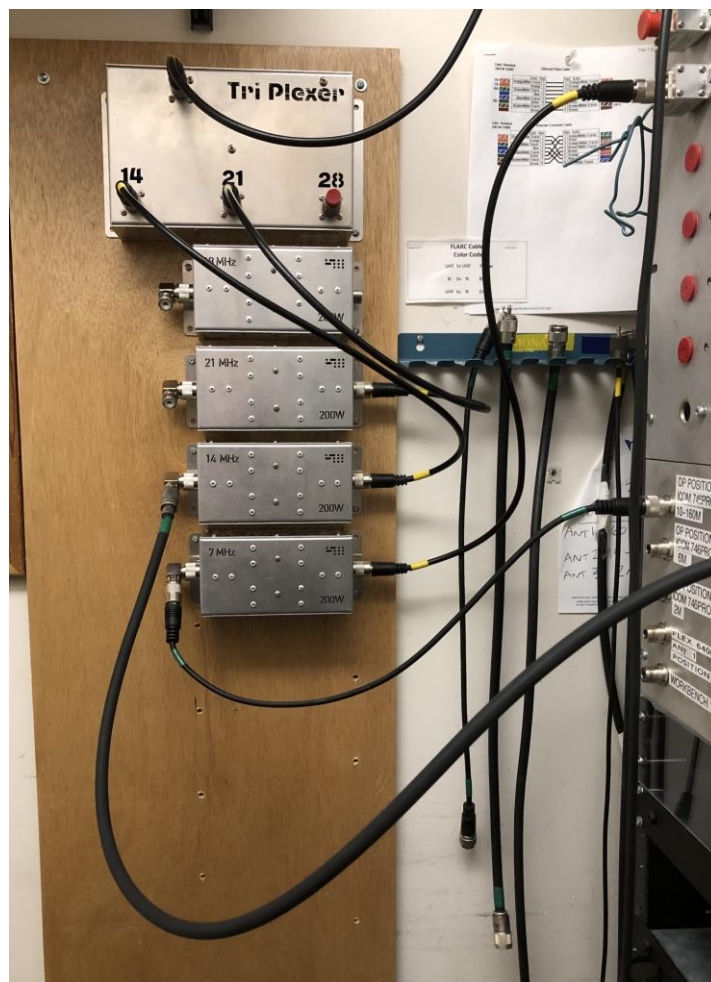
**www.FairLawnARC.org**

**June 2024**

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## **Improvement to FLARC Antenna Panel**



A while ago, we added a small “cable rack” next to the antenna panel in the office to hold the variety of coax cables used to connect our antennas to the various operating positions.

A couple of months ago, the three ‘types’ of coax cables we use were coded with colored tape at both ends to make it easier to find the right cable; the cable types are:

- UHF-Male to UHF-Male
- Type-N Male to Type-N Male
- UHF-Male to Type-N Male

**Remember:**  
**Ham Radio Is a Contact Sport!**

Continued on next page.

## Antenna Panel, con't

Both improvements, but we still ended up with the BandPass Filters dangling from the cables connected to the Antenna Patch Panel – not good for the coax connections and messy, to say the least. And when not being used, the BP Filters had no particular place to be found. We still needed something neater and better.

Jim W2JC had some ideas, and discussed them with several members of the Technical Committee. One idea was to find a way to mount the filters behind the antenna patch panel, with another set of connectors on the panel. This would be quite a mechanical challenge.

An alternate idea was to mount the filters on the wall, where they could always be found and easily connected.

After discussing this idea with Noel W2MSA and Steve W12W, Noel came up with a nice sturdy wood board of perfect width and sufficient length! Jim then made a “real size” cardboard mock-up and showed it to the group, who all liked the concept. So Jim proceeded to sand and varnish the panel, and with the help of Noel and his mechanical skills we mounted the TriPlexer and the four Bandpass Filters on the board – with room for more if needed.



Jim W2JC assists Noel W2MSA

The panel is securely mounted on the wall to the left of the Antenna Patch Panel rack.

Fred KR2H provided much of the mounting hardware, including “inserts” to make the screws in the wood more secure. This made the assembly very “professional” ...



Fred KR2H and Jim W2JC

Meanwhile, Dave WO2X made some connector changes so that ALL the connectors on the top panel (which go to the antennas) are SO-239 UHF type and all the connectors on the lower panel (which go to the operating positions) are Type N connectors.



The final setup

Now, the right side of each Bandpass Filter goes to the lower, operating position panel – and the left side of each Filter goes, with a right angle adapter to less the flex strain on the cable, to the upper antenna panel. The cables remain attached to the filters, so there is no longer a need to ‘hunt’ for the right type of cable; the cables are removed from the antenna panel and the ‘rig’ panel when shutting down, for safety.

The TriPlexer is similarly provided with cables that stay attached to it.

# Ham Radio Class Now Forming

The ARC2 Radio Club will be holding  
a 2-day in-person Amateur Extra Radio License CRAM class  
where you can learn what you need to pass your  
50-question exam and earn your upgrade to a  
**Amateur Extra FCC Amateur Radio License.**

*General or Advanced licensees may upgrade to Extra Class.  
The test covers some of the more obscure regulations,  
specialized operating practices, advanced electronics theory and  
radio equipment design.*

**Class: 2 days (Saturday and Sunday) June 8-9**

**Time: 8:00 am to about 5 pm**

**Location: Fairfield, NJ Red Cross office**

209 Fairfield Road, Fairfield, NJ 07004

**Class Fee: \$15** (snacks & facility)

**Exam Fee: \$15** (payable at exam)

## **Schedule:**

- Pre-Studying is required.
- Class: all day Saturday, 8 am to about 5 pm
- Review: Sunday, 8 am to about 2 pm
- Exam: Sunday, after review

**Registration required:** *(with full name, address, cell number, call sign)*

*Registration closes June 1<sup>st</sup> or when class reaches full capacity of 20.*

To register or to ask questions, email: **NB1LL@ARRL.net**

**Instructor: Bill Kelly, NB1LL**

(that is a #1 in NB1LL)

**ARRL** The national association for  
AMATEUR RADIO®



## Notable Hams

by Jim Jalil W2KNG

This column features notable hams both past and present. This month we will feature a lifelong ham whom some may recognize and remember but others, perhaps younger members, may not.

He was the controversial and outspoken host of a late night syndicated radio program called “Coast to Coast AM” which is, and he would have loved this, “out there.” We are referring of course to the late **Art Bell W6OBB SK**.



Art Bell W6OBB

There is always the temptation to call a public personality “colorful” and certainly Art Bell was colorful, if nothing else. But descriptions such as that do not do justice to how seriously Art Bell took his work. For those who did not regularly listen to Coast to Coast AM when he hosted it or are not familiar with the format, here is an explanation – which may not do it justice.

Coast to Coast AM, founded and hosted for many years by Art Bell and still on the air, is a late night talk/call-in show which focuses on paranormal experiences, conspiracy theories, UFO sightings and encounters, and a wide range of similar out-of-the-mainstream topics.

For example, recent discussions include the history of the CIA (which one can expect would not be flattering), theories of life after death including reincarnation, demonic possession, the

occult, ancient civilizations with super advanced technologies, crystal skulls, unseen dimensions, time travel... I suspect readers get the idea. As part of the show each night listeners call in to discuss a wide variety of topics such as conspiracy theories (the Illuminati are a favorite topic), levitation, encounters with aliens, etc. — all of which are truly out there, but often entertaining nonetheless. That’s Coast to Coast AM and it was Art Bell’s creation.

Born in 1945, Art Bell served in the Air Force from 1962-1966. After leaving the Air Force he began a career in radio, starting as a typical rock and roll disc jockey. Being Art Bell however, shortly after he left the military he spent six years in Okinawa hosting the only English language rock and roll show in Japan. When he returned to the States he eventually started a late night talk show program which originally began as a political themed show but gradually morphed into the paranormal themed program for which it became famous.

At its peak in the 1990s the show was syndicated to 500 radio stations with 15 million listeners. Those were staggering numbers for a program which aired in the middle of the night. His success did not go unnoticed.

In 2008 Art Bell was inducted into the Radio Hall of Fame. Along the way Art Bell found time to be an actor – appearing in three films, “The Day After Tomorrow,” “Dark Skies” and “I Know Who Killed Me” – all in the thrillers genre. His persona, the slightly crack-pot late night radio host, has been mimicked in many films.

Like many hams, Art Bell first began as a shortwave listener. His grandmother had a short wave radio and Art loved to listen to broadcasts from around the world. In an interview he recalled listening to short wave radio as a child and said he felt “it was like magic.” He also heard hams on the air and that sparked an interest in ham radio.

As luck would have it there was a ham in his neighborhood. Art boldly knocked on his door one day, said he had heard hams on the air and wanted

Continued on next page.

## Notable Hams, continued

to know more about amateur radio. In the true spirit of ham radio, the ham showed him around his shack and talked to him about ham radio. Years later Art recalled that day – and said he fell for ham radio “hook, line and sinker.”

Art Bell was first licensed as a Novice in 1959 at the age of 13. His call sign was KN3JJOX. Later he upgraded to General and became K3JJOX. He also held the call sign W2CKS briefly, but when he moved to California he was given his permanent and most famous call sign — **W6OBB**. He upgraded to Advanced, a license class he held for many years but eventually became an Amateur Extra.

He also held a First Class Radiotelephone License with Broadcast Endorsement, which came in handy later in his career as he ran Coast to Coast AM out of his home and was his own engineer.

When he lived in Okinawa his call was KR6BK. At another point in his life he lived in the Philippines and obtained the call sign 4F1AB.

Art Bell was a bit of an anomaly as a ham in that CW came easily to him, but he never particularly enjoyed operating CW. He took pride in operating all bands, but was partial to 75 and 40 meter SSB. He very much enjoyed rag chewing on the air and didn't seem to have been much interested in chasing DX.

Art Bell did not speak about ham radio on the air very often, as Jean Sheppard K2ORS did, but when Art did mention ham radio he spoke of it lovingly and passionately. In a podcast interview shortly before his death Art Bell opened up as to how much ham radio had meant to him over the course of his life. He related to the interviewer that at no point in his life after he was first licensed did he not have a station and he did operate regularly.

There was something else in that interview that was very moving. He spoke of ham radio as a “brotherhood” — as something very special that every ham shared.

In that vein he said that what he heard on the air, particularly on 75 meters — the profanity, anger, and boorishness — saddened him greatly, if for nothing else

than it ran contrary to the respect and friendship hams ought to have for each other.

He did not say this (so we are putting words in his mouth, though I am sure he would agree) – that he felt: **if you are ham, you are a friend of mine.**

That sentiment certainly came across in that interview.

Art Bell died in 2018 at the age of 72. He left a legacy of controversies and critics, as well as admirers, stemming from his creation of the show Coast to Coast AM. If Art Bell's show or the topics discussed are not your cup of tea, that's not only perfectly fine, Art Bell would be the first to tell you he respected your opinion. What perhaps we all can agree on and respect is that Art Bell was a lifelong ham.

He was passionate about ham radio and he loved ham radio. In the end isn't that what is so special about amateur radio. It doesn't matter who you are, what your beliefs are, where you came from or what you do for a living.



Art Bell's Shack

**If you're a ham, you're a friend of mine....**  
and that includes Art Bell, a fellow ham.

Art Bell **W6OBB** **SK**



## Earth Day Science Fair at Paterson Great Falls

For the tenth year, FLARC demonstrated amateur radio to hundreds of students from the Paterson Schools as part of the Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park's Earth Day "Science and Environment" program.



As in past years, the highlight of our presentation was Captain Larry WA2ALY and his "Send Your Name in Morse Code" show. Larry has created such a good impression in past years, that Ilyse Golman -- the Park Ranger who coordinates Earth Day -- told us that several teachers were asking if Larry was going to be back this year!



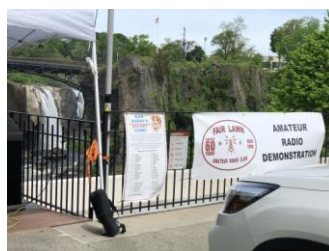
**^^ Does Larry make an impression?  
These girls just came from Larry's table,  
and they are actively discussing his handout!**

In addition to Larry's popular feature, where he touts Morse Code as a "secret language" and invites the

students to learn the sound of dits and dahs for the letters of their name, and then has them actually send the dits and dahs on the straight key and code oscillator -- we had two on-the-air ssb POTA stations in operation, as well as an FT8 POTA station.



Our location was on the concrete overlook patio right next to the parking lot, which worked out very well.



Our large display board with a world map surrounded by QSL cards from many countries was displayed facing the parking lot, and attracted attention of those entering the event area.

The FT8 station was set up with large video monitors showing the signal waterfall and displaying the many countries being received, along with the very nice poster describing how the computer is used for FT8 (which was created for the Ridgewood Science Fair booth).



But to our surprise, the radio/computer combination did not attract much attention from the students -- who ranged in age from 12 to 17. A few stopped by and asked about the QSL board and the video screens,

Continued on next page



## Earth Day Science Fair at Paterson Great Falls, continued

which provided the opportunity for basic explanation and "planting the seed of curiosity" about ham radio. Which is really all we can expect to do with this type of event -- much like Johnny Appleseed spread his apple seeds far and wide, but never knew which ones sprouted and grew into fruit-bearing trees.

As a last minute idea, Dave WO2X brought a stack of "abandoned" QSL cards which had accumulated with the incoming QSL Bureau he volunteers with. He managed to attract the curiosity of quite a few young students, for whom he explained the cards and how they were used and then gave the student a sample card to take with them. (We are discussing some ideas to expand on this in the future).



We had a good turnout of FLARC members to set up, help out and take down the displays ... thanks to all who took their time to be there, and hope you found it interesting to see all the students of various ages learning about ham radio, astronomy, environmental protection, space and other science areas.

**Jim W2JC, Event Coordinator**



Photos thanks to KD2SOG and W2JC



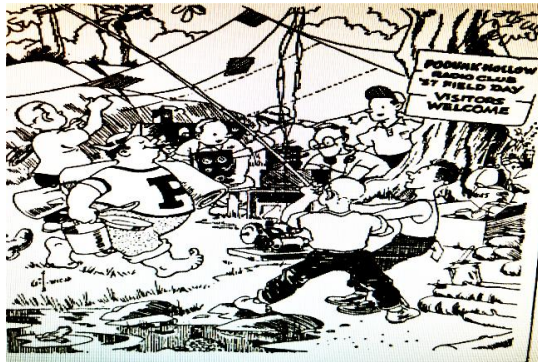
Perhaps the biggest ham radio event of the year will take place Saturday June 22 through Sunday June 23. We are of course referring to **Field Day**.

The first Field Day was held in June 1933 and, apart from the war years when ham radio was dark, it has been held annually ever since. Field Day exists for many reasons. The first and most obvious reason is to test emergency preparedness and the ability of hams to operate "in the field" under other than commercial power. Because of its intention to test preparedness, Field Day is not a contest; rather it is an "operating event" (quoting from the ARRL).

However apart from its stated intention to test preparedness and the "Yankee Ingenuity" of getting things to work, Field Day is also a fun event where hams come together to plan, execute the plan and enjoy spending time together in camaraderie and friendship over the 28 hours of the event. Field Day is as much sitting around and simply talking ham radio as it is actually operating. It is as much sharing a hamburger at dinner or a bagel at breakfast as it is racking up multipliers. It is as much setting up the antennas and tents together, and breaking them down together, as it is actually operating.

This year, as in past years, FLARC will establish its Field Day operations at Memorial Park in Fair Lawn. Even if you have not been involved in the planning, or otherwise have not been involved in the event, do not let that prevent you in any way from stopping by Memorial Park on Saturday June 22 or Sunday June 23 through 12:00 Noon. You will be more than welcome and you'll find a very friendly and open group of hams. No one will force you to operate (unless you wish to) and no one will put you to work (unless you want to). What the members of FLARC who are participating do want is for you to come and join them, if for nothing else to better get to know your fellow members and hams.

Field Day is a ham radio tradition....  
why not make it yours.



Gil Cartoon from QST April 1957

## **The Resonator Is Now Archived!**

Ever wanted to search for something in *The Resonator*? Maybe a member profile. Perhaps a past Street Fair. Even who participated at Field Day in 2017.

Now you can. *The Resonator* has now been accepted as part of the Digital Library of Amateur Radio and Communications. DLARC is a project of the Internet Archive (the not-for-profit online library best known for *The Wayback Machine*.) DLARC is growing to be a massive online library of the past and present of ham radio and related communications. It is funded by a grant from Amateur Radio Digital Communications.

When you need to find something, go to:  
<https://archive.org/details/flarc-resonator>

You can use the search "text contents" field to do a full-text search on all issues or click "Date Published" to see them sorted by publication date.

You know our little newsletter is cool.  
Now a lot more hams around the world will as well.

## **Get Direct With FLARC!**

Here is a direct link to specific club info: just a click away!

<http://apparel.FairLawnARC.org>

<http://auction.FairLawnARC.org>

<http://blog.FairLawnARC.org>

<http://calendar.FairLawnARC.org>

<http://events.FairLawnARC.org>

<http://exams.FairLawnARC.org>

<http://facebook.FairLawnARC.org>

<http://news.FairLawnARC.org>

<http://swap.FairLawnARC.org>

<http://tech.FairLawnARC.org>

<http://youtube.FairLawnARC.org>

<https://groups.io/g/FairLawnARC>



## **Online License Testing!**

Are you looking to get your license or upgrade without leaving your home? All you need is a laptop computer with a video camera.

Please check out <http://hamstudy.org/session/K2sab> for session information.

If you have any questions, please contact me at [k2sab@arri.net](mailto:k2sab@arri.net)

73,

Steven Boston K2SAB



# The Fair Lawn Amateur Radio

Why is FLARC New Jersey's Most Exciting Radio Club?

## Annual and Special Events



- Field Day
- Winter Field Day
- World Amateur Radio Day
- Portable Day
- Earth and Environmental Days
- Field Trips
- Club Exchanges
- Special Even
- Public Service Activities
- Public Events
- Ham fests and Auctions
- Foxhunts
- Contests
- Youth Activities and more

## There Is Something Every Night At FLARC!

Monday: Near and Far Net

Tuesday: DMR Net and Open House at the clubhouse

Wednesday: ARES/RACES Net

Thursday: Tech Net

Friday: Open House at the clubhouse or *Kawfee Tawk* Speaker Series (Monthly via Zoom)

Weekends: Open House at the clubhouse, POTA and other station activations, Contests, Foxhunts



## Special Interest Groups

- Portable Ops (POTA, SOTA, etc.)
- DX: Chase the rare ones
- Digital Voice: DMR and other modes
- FT8: Plus, other WSJT modes
- Satellite: Also, for weather interests
- Monitoring: SWL and other listening
- Contesting
- EMCOMM
- Radio Direction Finding
- Raspberry pi, Arduino



## Plus:

- A five-position operating station clubhouse
- An active repeater—W2NPT linked with NJ2BS.
- New antennas on the roof
- Monthly VE testing
- An award-winning newsletter
- Monthly speaker programs
- Educational programs and activities
- Active in-person and social networking
- An extensive video education archive

## That is Why FLARC Is the Most Exciting Club Around!

Come join us in-person or via Zoom for more activities, speakers, and projects!

[www.fairlawnarc.org](http://www.fairlawnarc.org)



**The Club** Fair Lawn ARC is the fastest growing ham club around, with five operating positions in a permanent clubhouse. Visitors and guests are always welcome. The club is open every Friday night, except when there is a Business Meeting scheduled, from NLT 6:30 PM. Business meetings are the first Friday of the month at 7:30PM.

#### 2024 Officers, Committees and Assignments

President	Fred Belghaus	KR2H
Vice President	Robert Marchini	KD2SOG
Treasurer	David Gotlib	KD2MOB
Secretary	Jim Jalil	W2KNG
Trustee	Brian Cirulnick	KD2KLN
Trustee	Judith Shaw	KC2LTM
Trustee	Lowell "Van" VantSlot	W2DLT
Member Services	Judith Shaw	KC2LTM
Health & Welfare	Nomar Vizcarrondo	NP4H
Marketing	Jim Cooper	W2JC
Program	[open]	
Video/YouTube	Thom Guida	W2NZ
Social Media	Brian Duddy	N2BTD
	Thom Guida	W2NZ
	Dave Marotti	NK2Q
Photographer	Giovanni Lucero	K2GIO
	Robert Marchini	KD2SOG
Community Relations	Gene Ottenheimer	WO2W
	Dave Gotlib	KD2MOB
Field Day	Noel Pagan	W2MSA
Hamfest	[open]	
Auction	Brian Cirulnick	KD2KLN
Activities Chair	Judith Shaw	KC2LTM
Education	Bill Kelly	NB1LL
	Paul Brennan	N6FB
Youth Outreach	Robert Marchini	KD2SOG
Adult Outreach	Lowell "Van" VantSlot	W2DLT
	Jim Cooper	W2JC
VE Testing Coordinator	Gene Ottenheimer	WO2W
Special Events	James Gallo	KB2FMH
Contests	Lowell Vant Slot	W2DLT
FLARC Historian	Fred Belghaus	KR2H [W2AAB]
Webmaster	Jim Cooper	W2JC
Technical Chair	Dave deCoons	WO2X
EmComm	Jim Breheny	N2JLF
RACES/ARES Director	Dave Gotlib	KD2MOB
RACES/ARES Liaison	Steve Wraga	WA2BYX
Newsletter Editor	Jim Jalil	W2KNG
Newsletter Publisher	Jim Cooper	W2JC
Club Station Manager	Noel Pagan	W2MSA
Quartermaster	Fred Wawra	W2ABE
W2NPT Trustee	Jim Cooper	W2JC
NK2H Trustee	Ed Efchak	WX2R

President serves as ex officio to all committees

## Want a Call Sign License Plate?

Amateur Radio (Ham operators) license plates may be purchased for a \$15 fee, for passenger vehicles, but not for commercial vehicles or motorcycles. (Applicants must be licensed by the Federal Communications Commission.)

Call MVC at 609.292.6500 or (toll free in NJ) 888.486.3339 to request an application.

The club has applications from time to time. If you would like an application, visit the "contact us" page, and we'll get one out to you.. or find the form and detailed instructions at:

<https://www.state.nj.us/mvc/pdf/vehicles/SP-23.pdf>



## Letters:

### A New Addition to *The Resonator*

The editor has received a lot of nice notes, letters and comments about this newsletter and the club in general. We have not published them in the past but going forward we will at least try.

Here are the grounds rules:

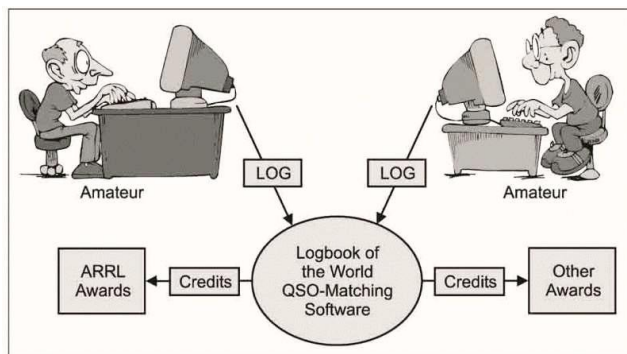
- Please keep all comments as brief and succinct as possible.
- No personal attacks.
- No political rants.
- No comments promoting violence, racism, religious intolerance, vulgarity, obscenity, or other such discourteous behavior.
- The Editor reserves the right to exclude any comments that violate our guidelines and may subject the writer to further disciplinary action by the club.



# A QSL card is the final courtesy of an amateur radio contact.

**PAY YOUR DUES NOW!**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/QSL\\_card](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/QSL_card)



Those who upload logs to Logbook of the World become eligible to redeem confirmation credits for awards. LoTW wants and needs *all* logs. Uploading is free, so send your logs today!

NOTE: LotW, and numerous other ARRL services, are currently not available – due to what seems to be a quite serious disruption of their networking and servers. At present, there is no estimated date for restoration, but we have been assured that the LotW database has not been affected.

## Follow FLARC ON THE WEB

**Facebook:** <http://facebook.FairLawnARC.org>

**Twitter:** @FairLawnARC

**Youtube:** <http://youtube.FairLawnARC.org>

**Website:** <http://FairLawnARC.org>

## SIG Group Membership as of May 27, 2024

Here is an update on the roster of Special Interest Groups... many groups have increased in size during the last month. About 45% of all members have joined at least one group.

<u>SIG Name</u>	<u>Leader</u>	<u>#</u>
Contesting	W2DLT	14
Digital Voice	<del>KD2BKD</del>	30
EmComm	N2JLF	13
Monitoring	WX2R	25
DX	W2JC	18
FT8	W2JC	22
Satellites	<del>KD2BKD</del>	20
Portable Ops	W2MSA	48
Radio Astronomy	WX2R	4
Raspberry pi	<del>KD2BKD</del>	7
Direction Finding	<del>KD2BKD</del>	6
<b>FLARC General</b>		<b>174</b>

Sign up for a group... or ...  
why not start one?

Contact [webmaster@FairLawnARC.org](mailto:webmaster@FairLawnARC.org)  
if you would like to start a new  
Special Interest Group.

# The Clubhouse Is Open Three Fridays In June!!

Date	Clubhouse Status
June 7	<b>CLOSED</b> – Business Meeting at Fair Lawn <b>Senior</b> Center
June 14	<b>OPEN</b>
June 21	Maybe <b>OPEN</b> • prep for FD
June 28	<b>OPEN</b>



**Pop-Up Tuesdays are now in-person at the club  
as well as in the Zoom-room.**

The club will follow all borough COVID-19 requirements for these events.



Pop-Up Tuesday informal "ragchew"  
\* workbench \* on-air operating \* mentoring \*  
TUESDAY at 19:00 EDT live **AT THE CLUB**



## Editor's Corner

We often hear the refrain, almost to the level of a clarion call, that we need to attract more young people to ham radio.... we need to appeal to our youth. This is often followed by the added reflection that young hams are good of course, but what we need are new hams of all ages. Of course who can deny any of that? Who can say: no we don't need to appeal to our youth, no we don't need young hams, no we don't need new hams. These are obvious and important concerns.

But let's stop to think for a moment. There are 750,000 licensed amateur radio operators in the United States. Jeepers... that's a lot of hams and, by the way, it is an all time high. There are more hams today than in the "golden age" of ham radio, often taken to mean the 1950s and 1960s. To call for more hams sometimes sounds like our numbers are dwindling or that we are a dying breed. Our numbers are not dwindling and we are not a dying breed. Of course the average age of a ham radio operator is going up, but so is the average age of the American population as a whole. The biggest demographic in the United States is people born between 1945 and 1964. So of course there are more older hams than younger hams, because there are more older people than younger people.

Having said all that, of course we as hams should make every effort of expose and recruit young people to ham radio, because young people are the future – not only of ham radio, but of everything. Volumes have been written about ways to do that, such as meeting young people where they are, which some say is tethered to computers and all the electronic marvels of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Volumes have been written about how to expose older people to ham radio – such as by appealing to desires to assist in emergency communications, for example.

All of that is all well and good. But what we really need is not more hams or younger hams. What we really need is active hams.

Having an FCC license simply allows one to be a ham radio operator. It does not make you a ham radio operator. Getting on the air, being involved in ham

radio activities, being engaged in ham radio activities that interest you (of which there are a ton)... that is what makes you a ham.

We need hams who find some niche in ham radio that interests them and become proficient and knowledgeable in that niche. In that way that particular niche may prosper, with knowledge and expertise shared.

We need hams who volunteer both within the ham radio community, as for example in Field Day or our recent participation in the Paterson Falls school project, or in the greater community, as for example being involved in ARES or some aspect of EMCOMM.

We need hams who enjoy the camaraderie of fellow hams by being active in a ham radio club, such as FLARC. Ham radio clubs are the backbone of the ham radio community.

But most important of all we need hams who are on the air. If someone is never on the air, has no technical or operating curiosity in any aspect of radio communication, is not interested in any of the multitude of ham radio niches available to us, is he or she even a ham?

There are many people who hold an FCC license who fall into that category... one might even say far too many. These are the invisible hams. Our challenge as a ham radio club is to find invisible hams, flame the passion that propelled them to get an amateur radio license in the first place, and in some cases re-ignite that passion. We should be as targeted to invisible hams as we are with recruiting new hams.

We should also find ways to assist in the growth, training and development of hams who may not be among the invisible hams, but who may need gentle mentoring and guidance as they navigate ham radio and find the joy that is there for the asking.

We need young hams and new hams of all ages. Of course we do.

But we need active hams just as much.

Jim Jalil W2KNG

## Vast Archive of FLARC Activities and Info

Members are reminded that we have a large archive of YouTube videos of our previous many years of Kawfee Tawk™ presentations, which cover many aspects of ham radio. Our mostly unsung hero club videographer, Thom W2NZ, has spent thousands of hours of his own time creating really professional quality videos of these 167 presentations. Visit our club YouTube page and you will see all of them listed on the main page, at <http://youtube.FairLawnARC.org>

Another large and rather unused archive is that of our seven years of the club newsletter, The Resonator. They provide a nice historical record of the many activities of FLARC over the years, as well as lots of useful info about ham radio and electronics. The entire archive is at <http://newsletters.FairLawnARC.org>

And don't forget the FILES area of our groups.io website, where useful and important info is saved:

<https://fairlawnarc.groups.io/g/main/files>

## Renew Your ARRL Dues... Send Free Money to FLARC!

The ARRL has a great program to support affiliated clubs in that it sends part of your dues back to the club if you renew through the club.

So... when you get your ARRL renewal, send both your check and your renewal application to our trusty Treasurer, who will take care of getting your renewal to Newington and a fat check for \$5.00 back to FLARC.

Nothing can be simpler...  
you just have to remember!!

Print and use the  
form on page 23  
of this issue of

The Resonator



## Club Apparel — Get Them While They're **RED**!

Club apparel is always in vogue. Red is always "in" and your club friends all have them... you *want* a shirt or jacket for the next FLARC event! Great for Field Day!

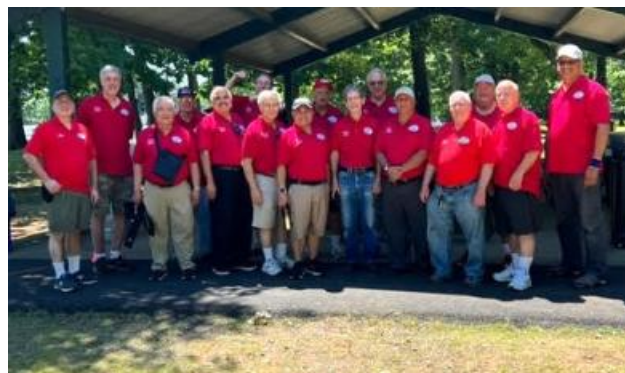
Don't forget.... they're easy to order.

Go to [www.hamthreads.com](http://www.hamthreads.com)

or visit <http://apparel.FairLawnARC.org>

**Check out the item selection that is posted on the FLARC website (with pictures and prices).** Order the shirts or other items you want with either the regular FLARC logo or the still-cool 60th anniversary logo. Note: **RED** is the primary and preferred club standard shirt color.

And why not WEAR your nice red shirt when you come to the club, especially for meetings and events.



It's easy to spot FLARC members  
wearing their red club shirts !

## Ham Radio Is Contagious And It Won't Make You Sick!!

### 2024 FLARC Net On The W2NPT Repeater:

*Near and Far Net • Mondays at 8PM*

*W2NPT Repeater and EchoLink*



**Special Note:** As non-profit, the IRS now requires that we disclose annually the use of paid lobbyists to our members and indicate approximately what percentage of their dues goes toward that. 0% of your dues payment will be used by the club to directly pay a lobbyist firm to lobby on behalf of all our members regarding pending legislation that impacts our hobby.



**NEWHAMS.INFO**

Training, information, and encouragement for new amateur radio operators.

<https://newhams.info/>

#### BEQUEATHS AND DONATIONS

Planned gifts usually imply the family donation of amateur equipment to the club when someone has become a Silent Key. But it can be more. Club members might consider making a gift through a will or trust; gifts that help provide lifetime income to the club. Consult with your lawyer, estate planner or tax advisor if you feel such a gift is worthy.

## About The Club

*The Resonator* is published monthly and is the official (and only) newsletter of The Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club. FLARC was established in 1956 and has met continuously since inception. **The club is sponsored by the Borough of Fair Lawn.** The club meets every Friday, except when a Business Meeting is scheduled, at 6PM at the club station in The Fair Lawn Community Center, 10-10 20th Street, Fair Lawn, NJ. Business meetings are the first Friday of the month at 7:30 PM at the Fair Lawn Senior Center, and on Zoom.

Visitors **ARE ALWAYS** welcome at our meetings.

FLARC operates the W2NPT repeater (145.470- PL167.9) located high atop the Community Center. The analog repeater is open to all amateurs for use without restrictions.

The club has nearly two hundred paid members.

Dues are currently \$25 per year;  
\$20 for new members.

For more information, please see our website, at

<http://membership.FairLawnARC.org>

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Thanks!  
for your  
Support!!

**This is YOUR club.... Be a part of it !!**



**FAIR LAWN'S  
COMMUNICATIONS CENTER!**

***With Our Antennas On The Roof!***





## Pop-Up Tuesday

**Tuesdays at 19:00 ET**

**LIVE at the club!**

**Sunday Morning Breakfast Club**  
9AM-12PM

2M SSB net starts 9:30AM

What project are you going to bring?

See ya there... — WI2W

**THE  
BREAKFAST  
CLUB**

Good turnout June 9<sup>th</sup> at the Sunday morning breakfast club.

Lots of topics being discussed:

- VHF contest activity on 6m,
- Chasing SOTA stations at the W1 SOTA camp out and
- Steve WI2W brought his new super antenna MP1 for show and tell.

<https://newsuperantenna.com/MP1-SuperStick-Portable-Vertical-Antenna-Deluxe/>

Come out to the club on Sunday mornings and learn how to use our stations.



## FLARC May 16, 2023 VE Testing Results

With VE testing back on schedule, Bill WA2WL reports the following results:

Name	Call	License Earned
Michael Schreck	KD2WKD	Extra
Thomas Daly	KE2CPS	Extra
Melkon Urkumyan	N2VZA	Extra
Robert Patterson	KE2CYX	General
Gerard Quelch	KE2CYA	General
Paul Kaltenbach	KE2DFO	Technician
Millo Cody	K2CBO*	Technician
Jacinto Morel Jr	KE2DER	Technician
Raymond Rivera Jr	KE2DFZ	Technician

Testing for next month will be at the Fair Lawn Recreation Center.

\* was KE2DEQ

## Eleven Special Interest Groups [SIGs] Already Formed: Any Others?

A new SIG—Radio Direction Finding—has started. Club interest continues to grow in the SIGs.

Another recently formed SIG is for those interested in Raspberry Pi and Arduino projects, but now includes DoItYourself (DIY)/Makers kit building, 3D printing and similar topics.

A list of all of the current SIGs is shown on page 6.

Other possible groups, from the member survey, include:

- *Radio Propagation*
- *Antennas and how they work*
- *Ham radio software*
- *Technical assistance to club members*

Anyone interested in leading any of these groups...?

Please contact [webmaster@FairLawnARC.org](mailto:webmaster@FairLawnARC.org)



## LETTERS



A feature of the Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club (FLARC) is the many SIGs (Special Interest Groups) that we have formed. These groups enable "birds of a feather" to "flock together" with others having the same special interest.

We are also fortunate that the club's GROUPS.IO account was set up while sub-groups were still provided for free -- so that each FLARC SIG has its own sub-group of our groups.io -- meaning they can exchange emails among the SIG members, share and store files, have their own event calendar, and such.

While the topics of our SIGs seem very interesting, many of them have had little to no activity since they were formed. This is probably because the "leader" (the one who asked for the SIG to be formed) has not planned any events or started any discussions on the topic.

But members of a SIG can ask questions or start discussions themselves, just by posting to the subgroup.

When you joined the subgroup, you received an email with details on how to post to the group. If you don't have that, just go to the "Home" page of the SIG and it will tell you the email address to use to post to the sub-group.

If you go to

<https://fairlawnarc.groups.io/g/main/subgroups>

you will see a full list of our sub-groups with a brief description of each.

Are you a member of an inactive SIG? Why not take the initiative and post a question, start a conversation on the topic, or even plan some sort of event for the SIG members?

Along that line, FLARC now has its own Zoom account -- which can be used for SIG on-line meetings, topic presentations or even a "how to"

Continued in next column ➔

## HAMSPEAK

### QSO

A ham radio operator's shorthand term that means "a conversation over the air."

### QSY

Ham radio operator's shorthand term for changing frequency.

### ROGER

Ham radio operator's response meaning "I understand."

### NET

An on the air gathering of ham radio operators, usually has some structure to it.

### RAGCHEW

Casual conversation on the air, not necessarily structured but may be that everybody takes a turn in order.

### DOUBLE

When 2 or more hams transmit at once, making conversation difficult and usually the higher power/better propagation ham may be heard over the other person transmitting.

### 73

Shorthand for saying

"best wishes and have a good day."

Usually used at the end of a conversation.

Fred Wawra W2ABE, 73.

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session. Just email [webmaster@FairLawnARC.org](mailto:webmaster@FairLawnARC.org) and let me know what date and time you would like to have your Zoom session and I'll set it up for you. We can even send email reminders to your SIG members, with the log-in info!

We COULD have some really vibrant Special Interest Groups if members really have those special interests! Don't be bashful -- take the initiative and start something.

Jim W2JC FLARC Webmaster

## Theoretics Demystified

**DUE TO THE RECENT SOLAR ACTIVITY WE ARE FOLLOWING UP ON SUNSPOT AE3664 AND THE PROBABILITY OF ANOTHER CME/SOLAR FLARE.**

Radio communication has had a tough time last week due to a recent Coronal Mass Ejection, which is when the sun jets out plasma that heads toward earth and causes disruptions to radio and, if strong enough, can effect electronics in general.

The earth's magnetic field and the effect of the recent CME will be our subject, and in particular the effect that the recent CME has had upon the earth and communication.

I was trying to communicate on the 75-meter band during the CME from sunspot AR3664 and found that the band was totally dead, and it seemed that my antenna was disconnected – but it was not. This was on May 13th – which was Monday last.

The sun revolves in about 2-week intervals, which means that the recent CME may cause problems again on or about the 27th of May. By the time you read this the show may be over and be a part of history.

What the sun does affects our magnetic field, the study of which is called Geomagnetism. The sun's influence greatly affects all aspects of radio communications, as radio communications are nothing more than an orderly deliberate shaping of electromagnetic waveforms — whereas what the sun does is to blast out a vast array of wavelengths and plasma energy which charges our ionosphere daily and provides the skip effect on HF frequencies, thereby enabling us to communicate over long distances.

When there is very active sunspot activity this can have the effect of stripping the ionosphere of those charged particles which enables our signals to bounce back, especially at night. This is what happened last week, and radio communication was dead on Monday and not much better the next couple of days.

Sunspots are areas of cooler sun activity that can produce Coronal Mass Ejections with their

associated Solar Flares which are a sudden explosion of energy which are caused by 'tangling' of the magnetic lines of force near the sunspot. This is called solar activity. This solar activity affects all RADIO communications including HAM radio. Since the first CME burst and solar flare, the band conditions have been poor to say the least. Only time will tell how much the next predicted CME will affect us.

Having been out in the sun, it seems that the sun's rays have had more punch to them since that first CME from sunspot AR3664 which incidentally is about the same size as the one in the 1800s which was called the Carrington Event — named after the astronomer who spotted the CME before it hit Earth 17 hours later.

Telegraph wires had current generated in them from that solar flare and set fires to some telegraph equipment. Imagine what would be the consequences if there was another Carrington-like CME/Flare!!

The only radios that might work would be old tube type radios. All working solid state devices could be damaged or rendered inoperative and this may include cars with all their electronics. This is not even thinking about damage to the power grid! Think of life without electricity!

Fred Wawra, W2ABE, 73.

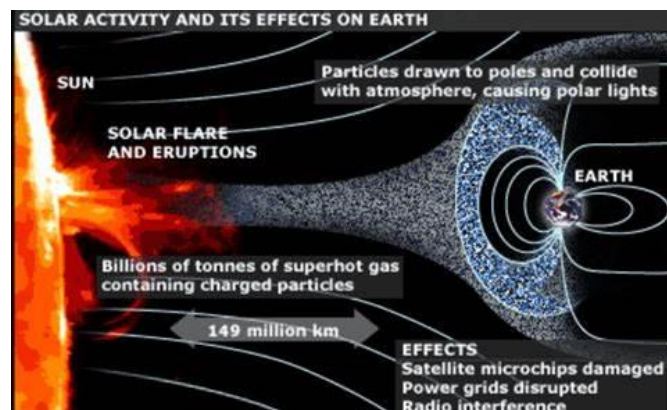


Image: [https://th.bing.com/th/id/OIP.Kx33sa9zfiOSYpW\\_eLcgzwAAAA?rs=1&pid=ImgDetMain](https://th.bing.com/th/id/OIP.Kx33sa9zfiOSYpW_eLcgzwAAAA?rs=1&pid=ImgDetMain)

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## FLARC PortableOps SIG

PortableOps@FairLawnARC.groups.io

This is a Special Interest Group (SIG) for members interested in portable ham radio operation such as POTA, SOTA, IOTA, LOTL, etc. The purpose of this SIG is to get outdoors and practice our operating skills from different places. We can share outing experiences, tips and work on our operating skills.

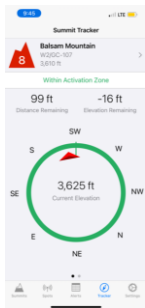
Mike KD2YEW reports —

Last Month I attended the 2nd annual North East “Summits on the Air” club W2 campout. It was held in the Catskills at the Woodland Valley campground, which was conveniently in POTA park US-8070 (Catskill State Park).

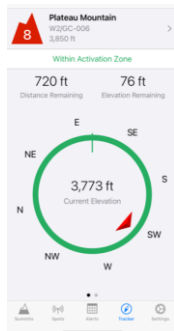


It was well attended with about 15 activators. I was there from Friday May 17<sup>th</sup> to Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup>. Band conditions were not ideal and the black flies made it really tough to activate.

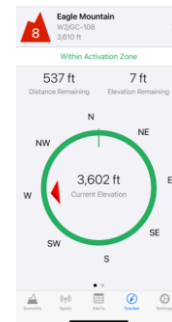
During that time I activated 4 summits, all over 3500 ft in elevation:



W2/GC-107 Balsam Mountain



W2/GC-006 Plateau Mountain



W2/GC-108 Eagle Mountain



W2/GC-078 Sugarloaf Mountain.

As always FLARC members stepped up to make a few QSOs with me — thanks K2DBK, W12W, N2BTD and W2MSA for the Park To Park contacts.

In addition to the SOTA Summits, I was also able to activate POTA US-8070 Catskill Park and US-8076 Big Indian Wilderness.

After a hard day of hiking and activating, we all got together in the campground for some drinks and POTA hunting.

Saturday evening we all had dinner at the Woodstock brewery and Sunday morning there was a breakfast at AJ2I's (founder of NE SOTA club) campsite.

Overall it was a great time. It's awesome to put faces to call signs and be around people who are just as passionate about portable operations as I am. I encourage everyone in FLARC to participate.

I look forward to the fall campout in the Adirondacks and next year's spring campout in the Catskills.

73 de KD2YEW



## EmComm SIG Updates

### [Emergency Communications via Ham Radio]

Amateur radio operators use their training, skills, and equipment to provide communications during emergencies. Hams serve our communities when storms or other disasters damage critical communication infrastructure, including cell towers, and wired and wireless networks. Amateur radio can function completely independently of the internet and phone systems. An amateur radio station can be set up almost anywhere in minutes. Hams can quickly raise a wire antenna in a tree or on a mast, connect it to a radio and power source, and communicate effectively with others.

During the month of May there were two events that the EmComm Group participated in. First was the Bergen County RACES Simulated Emergency Test (SET) that occurred on May 4, from 10:00 – 11:00am.

The SET was to evaluate the readiness of the towns to pass Traffic via RF over a Simplex VHF, and two frequencies on 40M and 80M.

Fair Lawn RACES participated from the FLARC and Fair Lawn Designated Shelter located at the Fair Lawn Community Center. We were successful and able to pass the traffic on all 3 frequencies.

I would like to thank those who participated:

N2JLF	Jim Breheny,
WI2W	Steve Holly,
KD2YEW	Mike Volpe and
W2MSA	Noel Pagan.

Their help in overcoming some of the technical issues was what made the ability to meet the objectives successful.

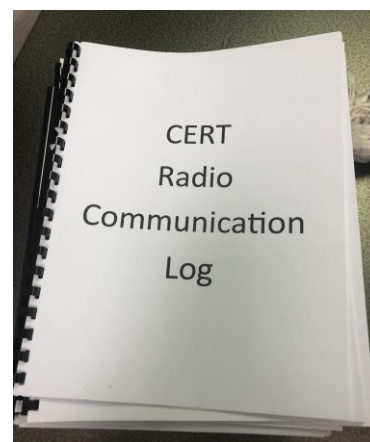
The other event was helping the Pompton Lakes OEM and CERT Team on the evening of May 15.

NENJ ARES was asked to assist and set up a Winlink station to pass Traffic from the field to the OEM HQ.

The scenario was to set up EmComms at key locations throughout the town, receiving emergency traffic and passing it via VHF Radio to Net Control via their Communications Truck – then using Winlink to pass the traffic to OEM HQ.



Despite the weather and a Solar Storm, we were successful in meeting our goal of passing the traffic to OEM HQ on a 40m HF Winlink connection.



The Pompton Lakes EmComm Drill was a complete success due to the efforts of Emergency Management Coordinator Al Evangelista, CERT Team Leaders Deborah, Mike Volpe KD2YEW, the Pompton Lakes CERT Team and NENJ ARES DEC Jim Breheny N2JLF.



If you are interested in ARES or EmComms you can reach out to:

N2JLF Jim Breheny, NENJ ARES DEC,  
N2JLF @arrl.net 201 281-4156



## ELECTRONIC DUES PAYMENTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE!



**FLARC dues, new and renewal — and even donations! —  
can now be made on-line ...**

Until permanent arrangements can be made, several fiduciaries of the Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club have graciously agreed to forward electronic payments to the Club's bank account.

Payments can be made using either PayPal or Zelle account.



- Log into your PayPal account
- Locate the Send Money function
- Use the following email address as the recipient:  
[1947xyzabc1947@gmail.com](mailto:1947xyzabc1947@gmail.com)
- Enter the appropriate \$ amount for your dues
- In the notes section, include your Call Sign and what year(s) the dues are for
- When prompted, indicate that you are "Sending to a friend"
- Log into your Zelle account
- Use the following phone number as the recipient: 201-240-9317
- In the notes section, include your Call Sign and what year(s) the dues are for

Once complete, you may – for added assurance - send a screenshot to  
[treasurer@FairLawnARC.org](mailto:treasurer@FairLawnARC.org)

– please be sure to redact any personal information –  
(e.g. bank account number, balance, etc.)

**For both new and renewal, please complete the Membership Application form at**  
**<https://FairLawnARC.com/membership.pdf>**  
with your current info and either give it to a club officer  
or mail it to the address on the form.

For additional information on club membership, visit  
<http://membership.FairLawnARC.org>

Visit the club website at <http://FairLawnARC.org> for info about the club,  
club activities, club history and our club 2-meter repeater.

For a PDF form that can be filled in on-line, then printed and mailed with check, [CLICK HERE](#)

Or you can print this page, fill it in and mail to the address shown at the bottom.



## Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club

*Fair Lawn Recreation and Community Center  
10-10 20th Street  
Fair Lawn, N.J. 07410*

### MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ PO Box \_\_\_\_\_ Ste./Apt # \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Roster Published Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Unpublished Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
Roster Published EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ License class: \_\_\_\_\_

Check all that apply      ARRL Member ?      RACES Member ?      ARES Member ?      CERT ?      VE ?

Additional Family Members (In same household) --

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_

Introductory and Student Membership      \$ 20      \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Students under the age of 18 eligible for student membership)  
(Introductory membership open to new members  
or not a member in last 7 yrs)

Associate Membership \*      (No Fee)

\* Open to Fair Lawn Residents Only. No voting rights or other privileges.

Renewal of Current Membership      \$ 25      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Three Year Renewal Incentive      \$ 65      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Single memberships only, family memberships excluded)

Additional Family Members    # \_\_\_\_\_ at      \$ 5 each      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Life Membership      \$ 625      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Senior Life Membership (65 yrs. of age or over)      \$ 250      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Equipment Fund Donation, above regular membership dues      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total submitted      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby acknowledge the By laws and rules and regulations of the club and will abide by them as amended

Please Note: Memberships are NOT Pro-Rated. Membership is from Jan 1<sup>st</sup> to Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> of any given year unless documented otherwise.

Please make your dues check payable to the "Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club" and remit to the following address:

**Fair Lawn ARC  
– Attn: Treasurer  
10-10 20<sup>th</sup> Street  
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410**



Complete this form for NEW or RENEWAL ARRL membership and give to FLARC Treasurer [David Gotlib KD2MOB] with your payment check.



## ARRL Affiliated Club Membership Application

- ☐ I am a brand-new member, or my membership lapsed for 2 or more years. My club will receive a \$15 commission.  
☐ I am renewing (includes lapsed members of less than 2 years). My club will receive a \$5.00 commission.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

- ☐ My Family Member is Joining or Renewing: (Annually \$10 per member)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Your Annual Membership Dues –

Circle Your Choice

	3 Years	2 Years	1 Year
US Membership	\$140	\$95	\$49
International (Digital Only)	\$140	\$95	\$49
International (with mailed QST)	\$217	\$147	\$76
Blind	\$30	\$20	\$10
Family	\$30	\$20	\$10
Student			\$25

TOTAL \$

### Choose your print magazine –

Check One

- ☐ **QST**, ARRL's membership journal for active radio amateurs (12 monthly issues)  
☐ **On the Air**, Beginner-to-intermediate-level help and advice (6 bimonthly issues)  
☐ **Digital Only** (All members can access the digital versions of both magazines)

### Payment

Enclosed is my: ☐ Check ☐ Money Order ☐ Charge Request

Charge to my: ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Amex ☐ Discover

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Card Holders Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Toll Free (US) 1-888-277-5289 or 860-594-0200 • ARRL, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111-1400  
 membership@arrl.org • www.arrl.org/join

**June 2024**

**FLARC Business Meeting**

FAIR LAWN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

MINUTES BUSINESS MEETING

Fair Lawn Senior Center

June 7, 2024

The Club's President Fred KR2H called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

At his request the members present in person rose and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

The President then asked the Club Secretary Jim W2KNG to call the role.

The Secretary called the following:

President	Fred KR2H	Present
Vice President	Robert KD2SOG	Present
Treasurer	Dave KD2MOB	Present
Secretary	Jim W2KNG	Present
Trustee	Van W2DLT	Not Present
Trustee	Brian KD2KLN	Not Present
Trustee	Judith KC2LTM	Present (by Zoom)

The Secretary confirmed to the President that a quorum existed in order for the meeting to proceed and business be conducted.

The President then asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held May 3, 2024.

Upon motion made by Skip KD2BRV and seconded by Robert KD2SOG the minutes were unanimously approved.

The President then welcomed two new members, Ray KE2DFZ and Ed - who had just passed his Tech but has not yet received his license and call sign. They were met with a round of applause.

The President then asked for the Treasurer's Report. The Treasurer, Dave KD2MOB, gave his report.

He stated that the balance in the checking account was down slightly for expenses related to antenna work.

There was also an expense related to the renewal of the Club's domain names through GoDaddy.

He also related that he had sent emails to former members who had not renewed their dues.

Of the 70 emails sent, he had only one response, which was a renewal.

He further reminded the members that later in the year Fair Lawn will be celebrating its 100th anniversary.

In connection with that celebration, the Club is planning a Special Event Station.

There will also be a town Journal and as it gets closer to the event he may come to the members for discussion of putting an ad in the journal from FLARC. It was the sense of the members that FLARC should put an ad in the journal.

The President then announced that the Club wished to recognize the many years of service two members have given to the Club by giving each an engraved clock. He asked Paul W2IP and Ed WX2R to come forward and accept the Club's token of appreciation. Paul and Ed received a well deserved round of applause from the members.

The President then announced that he had received an email from Steve Miosku, who was with us on Zoom.

Steve then spoke to the meeting. He said he is a movie producer and is filming a short movie involving ham radio.

Ultimately he would like to turn the project into a feature film. He had reached out to the Club for both technical advice and the potential borrowing of ham radio equipment to be used in the movie as a prop. No actual on the air operation would be involved. The sense of the members was unanimous that the Club should cooperate in this

## February 2024

### FLARC Business Meeting, cont'd.

project. Steve will send an email to the members, asking those members interested in both lending ham radio equipment and offering technical advice to please get in touch with him.

The President then asked Jim W2KNG to report on the Administration Committee. Jim related the current thinking on two possible corporate structures: one as a “for profit” corporation and the other as a “not for profit corporation.” Between the two, it seemed a “for profit” corporation (with an IRS tax exemption) seemed the most advantageous. He will be working with Mitch KD2IU to come up with draft documents to be reviewed by the full Administration Committee.

The President then asked Dave WO2X to report on the Tech Committee. Dave said that he would be scheduling a time to get on the roof of the Rec Center to inspect damaged antennas. He said the Tech Committee would be working at the Field Day site to test WIFI connectivity. He then reported that Jim W2JC, along with Noel W2MSA and Steve WI2W, has designed and fabricated a wall-mounted panel on which the TriPlexer and our four BandPass Filters are now mounted -- making it much easier and neater to connect our rigs to the antennas. He also reported that Jim W2JC has labeled all the ZOOM equipment and made an inventory, which is on the cover of the Zoom box, so if any member wishes to borrow the ZOOM equipment for a Club activity it is all organized and ready to go. He next reported that the Club is using a triplexer on loan from Van W2DLT. He suggested the Club purchase one. This led to a discussion of potential triplexers. Upon motion duly made by Dave WO2X and seconded by Bob N2SU it was resolved that the Tech Committee was authorized to spend up to \$350 to purchase a triplexer, the exact one to be determined by the Tech Committee in its discretion.

As part of the Tech discussion, Jim W2JC reported that the FT8 radio at Position 2 was not loading up on 15 and 17 meters. Considerable work has been done by K2ZC to try to resolve the issue with the internal ATU to no avail. It was reported that the Board has approved the purchase of an external ATU and that should solve the problem.

Dave WO2X also reported that, at the town’s request, he had met with the Fair Lawn Town Manager to consult with the town on its two cell towers. He described that discussion, but also added that while he was there he brought up the possibility of moving the Club repeater antenna to the town’s water tower and the town replied that it would be looked into — which was not a no!

The Quartermaster, Fred W2ABE, reported that he is moving forward on organizing the basement storage in the Clubhouse.

Robert KD2SOG then read a letter from the National Park Service relating to the Paterson Great Falls Earth Day clean up project involving Paterson school children. The event was a success. Also in the letter the National Park Service thanked FLARC for its involvement. He then reported that June 15 is the ARRL Kids Day. Hams are encouraged to put children on the air, to speak with other kids around the world. Each child should give his or her name, age and favorite color.

Robert then reported that James KB2FMH has approached the Club to ask for a donation for the future Bouvet Island DXpedition. This led to a lively discussion on the propriety of the Club making a donation, if so how it would be handled, whether it would be a matching donation with member donations, would there be a cap if that structure were adopted and related topics. At the end of the discussion the President decided that the matter would be tabled for a future discussion, so no action was taken.

Robert KD2SOG then reported on a letter he had received from Jim Graff concerning the Club’s involvement in the annual Fair Lawn Fourth of July fireworks event. This led to a discussion on some issues with the Club’s participation in the past. It was the sense of the meeting that the Club participate, but that it be made clear that the sole function of the Club would be to offer communication and nothing else. Ed WX2R suggested that Gene WO2W should be the contact person with Jim Graff, as he is the Club’s community liaison.

Robert then gave the social media report for Thom W2NZ. There were 12 new subscribers to the YouTube channel and views slightly down for the month. The Yagi presentation continues to be the most popular.



## February 2024

### FLARC Business Meeting, cont'd.

Jim N2JLF reported that he would be giving an EmComm WinLink tutorial workshop at Red Cross HQ in Fairfield NJ on June 15th at 0930 and anyone interested should contact him.

Noel W2MSA then reported on Field Day preparations. He said everything was progressing well. The Antenna Committee has mapped out the site and everything is ready to go. He spoke about the tents that will be set up and that each tent can hold two stations. The Antenna Committee will also be taking an inventory of the coax in the basement to see what is needed and can be used. The Committee will also look for a 6 meter Yagi which is supposed to be somewhere in the basement.

Jim W2JC reported that the next VE Session will be held on the Saturday morning of Field Day.

Judith KC2LTM reported for the Health and Welfare Committee stating that she had sent one sympathy card to the family of KA2VYY and one get well card.

Nomar NP4H then thanked all the members of the Club who had extended their condolences on the passing of his mother. He specifically thanked Noel W2MSA for taking care of many details for him while he was in Puerto Rico.

Jim W2JC reported that several Special Interest Groups were active and others moribund. He reminded all SIG leaders that the ZOOM equipment is available for any member to use and would be most useful for SIG meetings.

The President then noted that because of the July Fourth holiday the next business meeting would be held Friday, July 12.

Steve WI2W then publicly thanked Dave K2ZC for all the repair work he has done on the radio equipment in the Clubhouse. In thanks for all his hard work and effort, upon motion made by Steve WI2W and seconded by Nomar NP4H, it was approved by the members that Dave K2ZC's membership in the Club be extended for three years.

There being no further business, upon motion made by Robert N2SU and seconded by Jim W2KNG, the motion to adjourn was unanimously approved at 8:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,

James P. Jalil W2KNG,  
Secretary

